

PROJECT TITLE : Reconstituted Tobacco II
PERIOD COVERED : January 7th - 23rd, 1980
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MONIQUE / RCB

Slitter cutter (Ref. 1).

The 4 samples of the comparison test (COMAS cutter vs FTR prototype cutter) have been analyzed :

- by sieve test of the sheet strip size
- by sieve test, OV and filling power of the sheet cut rag.

The QC staff encountered some technical problems when cutting the sheet samples to cut rag. Not enough RCB sheet was left over to re-analyze the sample.

On January 18th the trial was repeated. 4 samples were again submitted for the missing analyses.

LUWA ventilation system (HVAC)

The ventilation system is still not working to our satisfaction despite the modifications carried out by LUWA.

On January 21st LUWA - and FTR engineers visited the installation. They found out that the present flow rate of the air suction on the main dryer was lower than the flow rate at the time when LUWA did the measurements for the ventilation system.

The reason for decreasing the flow rate was to eliminate cracking of the sheet.

The calculation of the ventilation system was based on an air flow rate for drying, which has since been changed.

The LUWA ventilation system itself works according to the given specifications.

Thus it is foreseen to build a second air aspiration for the section under the Sandvik dryer. This will increase the flow rate of the exhaust air of the dryer.

Steel belt

A deformation of the steel belt was observed : a convexity of 13 mm was measured at the middle of the belt.

On January 11th a Sandvik expert visited Onnens and flattened the belt with a special tool.

The last flattening operation occurred in May 1979 (convexity 35 mm).

Roll coater

On January 8th the production had to be interrupted as the roll coater did not work anymore. The sprocket wheel drive of the steel casting roll was worn out and it was exchanged for a new one.

Dust stock situation, dust sieving

See monthly report January 1980, Unit Operations II, N. Lüthi.

3.4% Monique/RCB in MLF blend

The presently manufactured MLF blend contains 1.7% Monique/RCB. Due to the increasing Monique/RCB stock in Onnens it has been proposed to use 3.4% Monique/RCB in the blend.

About 12'000 kg MLF were produced with 3.4% sheet.

Cigarettes made out of this new blend were submitted to Panel A and B for taste evaluation.

Here is the result of the evaluation of Panel B (Ref. 2):

"The test cigarette is less aggressive and more elegant than the existing standard blend".

QC ONNENS

Lab installation

On January 22nd the Portakabin (mobil home, ex research lab) was transported to Onnens. It will serve as a temporary office for Mr. Hiscox (ETNA) and the undersigned.

A new QC lab is going to be built in Onnens. In this lab analyses for the 3 processes (ETNA, ESTHER and MONIQUE) will be carried out.

To set up this lab studies are being made jointly with Mr. Lopes (QC PME), the architect and the manufacturer of the lab furniture.

References

- 1) Notebook No.1, page 47, A. Robbiani
- 2) Panel B, Test de dégustation du 17.1.1980, P. Karle.

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT

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January 29th, 1980
ARO/sde

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